

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 /078 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4135

LIMITED OFFICAL USE ROME 6561

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF FAO FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
CHAIRMEN

REF: (A) ROME 5851 (B) ROME 6223

1. BOTH AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEES WERE DELAYED
IN STARTING BY PROBLEMS IN SELECTING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN.

2. COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES WISHED TO ELECT DEVELOPED
COUNTRY DELEGATE TO CHAIRMANSHIP. DR. M. RUIVO OF PORTU-
GAL HAD GATHERED SUPPORT PRIOR TO CONVENING OF THE COM-
MITTEE. AT START OF MEETINGS, MR.B. CUNNINGHAM OF
NEW ZEALAND ANNOUNCED CANDIDACY AND ENDEAVORED TO OBTAIN
SUFFICIENT SUPPORT.U.S. SUPPORTED CUNNIGHAM AS DID
MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES, CUBA
AND GROUP OF 77 MEMBERS SUPPORTED RUIVO. IN NOMINATING
COMMITTEE, VOTING WAS SPLIT 4 TO 4 BETWEEN THE TWO CAN-
DIDATES WITH INDIA NOT VOTING. SECOND ATTEMPT BY
NOMINATING COMMITTEE RESULTED IN NOMINATIONOF RUIVO
SUBSEQUENTLY M. RUIVO WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN, B.
CUNNINGHAM FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN AND REPRESENTATIVES
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OF ARGENTINA, KOREA, GUINEA, AND POLAND AS VICE-
CHAIRMEN.

3. IN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE TWO LATIN AMERICAN
COLLECTORS OF CHAIRMANSIPS, FALDINI OF ARGENTINA
AND BRITO OF BRAZIL, BOTH CLAIMED GROUP OF 77
SUPPORT. GROUP OF 77 COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER

AT FIRST CONFIRMED THIS, BUT IT LATER TURNED OUT
THAT REGIONS HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED. LATIN AMERICAN
REGION AT HASTY MEETING TO RESOLVE CONFLICT REFUSED
TO SUPPORT EITHER BRITO OR FALDINI AS NEITHER HAD
DISCUSSED THEIR CANDIDACY WITH REGION AND FINALLY

PERUVIAN DELEGATE, DENJAMIN SAMANEZ CONCHA, WAS
ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF COAG ON APRIL 20. DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES ADOPTED STRICT NEUTRALITY AND INSISTED
GROUP OF 77 RESOLVE ITS OWN PROBLEMS. LATER IN
COMMITTEE, UK EMPHASIZED NEED FOR AGRICULTURAL
EXPERT TO CHAIR COAG WHICH IS EXPERT COMMITTEE.

4. ABOVE MACHINATIONS PROBABLY DO NOT EFFECT SENEGALESE
CANDIDATE FOR COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS, BUT
SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND IN NEGOTIATIONS ON OTHER MAJOR
CHAIRMANSHIPS OF AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES. GARDNER

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